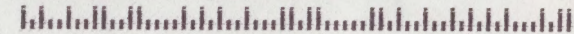


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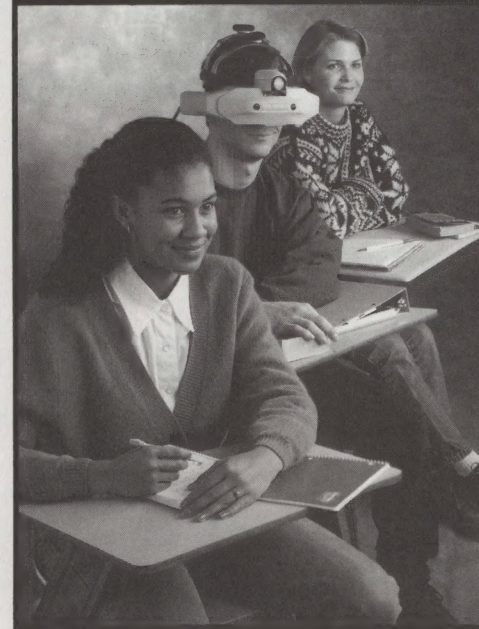
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Sightings

A Publication of The Sight Center — Winter 1996



LVES

the same technology used in camcorders.

The LVES is most beneficial for individuals with macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, optic nerve disease and retinitis pigmentosa.

The LVES is a rehabilitation tool that requires training so that it can enhance the patient's lifestyle.

The Sight Center staff are being trained in Minneapolis, Minnesota ensuring that our Low Vision Clinic can provide training and personal use of the LVES in mid-November. Our Low Vision Clinic can help people with vision loss better use their remaining sight through specialized devices and training. The Sight Center is nationally accredited and has been helping persons with visual impairments for over 70 years.

The Lions Club International, a world-wide, fraternal philanthropic organization, is devoted to sight, and people who are blind or visually impaired. The Toledo Host Lions Club raised the funds necessary to purchase LVES, the low vision enhancement system.

For further information, contact the Sight Center at 241-1183.

JAN 14 1997

The LVES (Elvis) Low Vision Enhancement System is an electronic vision system that is worn on the head. The LVES is a vision prosthetic which views the world through miniature television cameras and monitors. The LVES is portable and battery powered. It is intended for stationary tasks and situations where the person is sitting or standing still. It works as a magnifier, telescope, and CCTV providing a range of magnifications from 1.7 to 7.5X, and for reading up to 10.5X. It focuses automatically. LVES CAN NOT BE USED FOR DRIVING ANY KIND OF MOVING VEHICLE such as a car, boat, airplane, or bicycles etc.

The LVES is used for central

vision or pinpoint tasks such as using a computer, stationary job related tasks, video games, reading, writing, reading the blackboard at school and many others. The hands are free so the client can see and do at the same time.

The LVES was developed by a team of doctors and scientists at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's Wilmer Eye Institute, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Polaroid Corporation. The system is manufactured by Visionics Corporation, a Minnesota company, under license from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

The headpiece contains two miniature black and white CRTs and a zoom camera with 10X magnification. The LVES combines magnification and contrast with the same technology

The Mission of the Sight Center is "to maximize the independence of individuals who are blind or visually impaired and to minimize the incidence of blindness through education and prevention."

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WHO'S NEW

Dawn Christensen

Director of Volunteers
Client Advocate
Coordinator of Public
Education

Dawn Christensen has recently expanded her duties. Dawn is recruiting and training volunteers for The Sight Center with her usual wonderful, enthusiastic and positive attitude. Ms. Christensen worked closely with the United Way staff and Loaned Executive during the 1996 Campaign. She was in great demand as a motivational speaker and a touring guide at The Sight Center. To contact Dawn Christensen about Volunteering, a speaking engagement for your group, giving an agency tour, client advocacy or the public education program, call 241-1183 or Fax her at 241-4510.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!!!

- ◆ Clerical & Receptionist
 - ◆ Deliver SCAN Receivers
 - ◆ Friendly Visitors
 - ◆ POB Screeners
 - ◆ Prevention of Blindness
 - ◆ SCAN Readers
 - ◆ Transportation Drivers
- Please call Dawn Christensen at 241-1183 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS HONORED!

The 17th Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner was held October 17, 1996. Over 70 volunteers, staff and Trustees attended. Dr. Ruth Lindecker received the John Goerlich Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Lindecker has dedicated her life to providing service for people who are blind or visually impaired. Mayor Carleton Finkbeiner presented Dr. Lindecker with a mayoral proclamation honoring her for her work with the blind community.

Jane Hilkert and Gary Regal received the 1996 Iris Awards for their years of dedication to the agency. Delta Gamma Fraternity was presented with a plaque for meritorious service to the blind community.

Ann Forman, Madge Levinson, The Lions Clubs of Northwestern Ohio, Jean Smith, Ken Smith, Sally Smith and The United Way were presented with Certificates of Merit honoring their volunteerism. One year, five and ten year pins were presented. Each volunteer present received a ceramic apple and lapel pin.

The Sight Center, Toledo Society for the Blind Mission:

"to provide services that maximize the independence of individuals who are blind or visually impaired and to minimize the incidence of blindness through education and prevention."



Mrs. Geraldine Bunge teaches The Sight Center's 1996-97 CHILDREN'S PROGRAM. Gerry coordinates The Sight Center's program with the Elmhurst and Roger's Visually Impaired Classes. Whether The Sight Center Youth are in the pool at the Red Cross, on fieldtrips to Maumee Bay State Park learning about its ecology and environment, learning daily living skills in The Apartment (located in the Lower Level of The Sight Center), at the Christmas Ice Skating party, birding at Crane Creek, or exploring The Toledo Museum of Art, Gerry's Youth Program encompasses a full range of programs and activities. In October, The Sight Center Youth baked brown bread from scratch. Soon, there were only crumbs remaining. In the next issue of Sightings we will provide the recipe for The Sight Center Youth Fruit Bread.

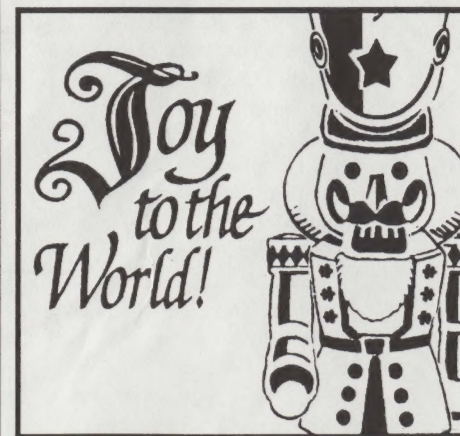
PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

The tangled web of paperwork regarding Medicare, Medicaid, RSDI, and SSI Benefits can cause much confusion. People who are blind or visually impaired may not be receiving all the benefits because of paperwork. Jake Poer, who is a Paralegal is offering assistance in obtaining all public and government benefits. He can help guide you through the steps necessary in obtaining these benefits. The following areas, are those in which Mr. Poer specializes:

1. RSDI (Retired Social Security Disability Income)
2. SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
3. Medicare (Title XVIII)
4. Medicaid (Title XIX)
5. Food Stamps
6. Long Term Care
7. PERS (Public Employees Retirement System)
8. Railroad Retirement Board
9. VA Laws and Benefits

For further consultation, in any of the above areas, contact Jacob E. Poer: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 241-1183, ext. 235, or 1-800-624-8378.

This holiday season, you can help the children and adults who are blind or visually impaired in 23 northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan counties. Your generous gift will help in so many ways:



Rehabilitation Teaching and Mobility Training
Adaptive Appliances, Prevention of Blindness
Children Services
Low Income Vision Service
Reading and Information Services
Vision Rehabilitation Services and more...

The Sight Center is here because of many caring contributors like you. Please continue to support our services by sending the best holiday gift you can today!

Best Wishes for the Holidays!